(ग) राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा बोर्ड ने सूचित किया है कि उन्हें ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(घ) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

High Costs for Heart Surgery

2789. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the heart surgery costs have shot up in recent years and recovery is affordable only for the rich;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to open low cost hospitals with modern equipments to cater to the medical necessities of lower strata of the society; and

(c) if so, by when and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Like those of similar other patient care services, cost of heart surgery has also increased in recent years. However, subsidised rates are available for needy and poor patients in Govt. hospitals.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal. Health is a State subject and the provision of Health Care Services is the responsibility of the State Governments.

AIDS in Gujarat State

2790. SHRI AHMED MOHMED BHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of AIDS cases have been detected in Gujarat State uptill now;

(b) if so, the names of the Hospital having facilities of AIDS test in Gujarat;

(c) whether Union Government with the help of foreign agencies propose to implement any AIDS control programme in Gujarat State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the main reasons for spreading of AIDS in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Only four cases of AIDS have so far been reported from Gujarat.

(b) HIV testing facilities are available in the Department of Microbiology, B.J. Medical College Ahmedabad. In addition there are 6 Zonal Blood Testing Centres in Gujarat where blood screening facilities for HIV are available.

(c) and (d) A comprehensive programme to prevent and control the transmission of HIV/AIDS with soft loan of US $ 84 million and assistance of US $ 1.5 million from the World Health Organisation is currently under implementation throughout the country. Under this project Rs. 56.415 lakhs during 1992-93 and Rs. 65.832 lakhs during 1993-94 have been released to the State of Gujarat.

(e) AIDS cases in Gujarat, as in other parts of the country are mostly due to heterosexual promiscuity.

Cases of Fake Syringes

2791. SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the News-item "Racket in fake syringes, saline busted" published in the "Telegraph" dated 24th November, 1993; and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to prevent such illegal and hazardous trade?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is adopting BIS